

The Public Health Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in Cambridge

COVID-19 WEEKLY REPORT

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

DECEMBER 14, 2020



Cambridge
Public Health
Department



CHA Cambridge
Health Alliance



Massachusetts Cities Comparison

City/Town	Average Daily Incident Rate per 100,000 (14 days*)	
	December 3 Report	December 10 Report
Boston	31.7	46.1
Cambridge	18.9	22.3
Lowell	78.3	102.0
Newton	20.2	23.6
Somerville	35.4	36.7
Springfield	64.9	78.8
Worcester	47.4	67.5
State	35.7	50.0

*14-day period reflects 11/15/20-11/28/20 (Dec. 3 Report) and 11/22/20-12/5/20 (Dec. 10 Report)

Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health Weekly COVID-19 Data Reports

Situational Update

- New infections statewide and in Cambridge continue to remain high and above pre-Thanksgiving levels.
 - Cambridge confirmed cases increased 30% in the 2-week period following Thanksgiving compared to prior 2-week period.
- Hospitalizations¹
 - Available non-ICU hospital beds in Metro West (incl. Cambridge) communities: **14%**
 - Available ICU hospital beds in Metro West communities: **27%**
- Cambridge Caseload (*as of Dec. 13*)
 - **617** active cases; **24%** of all cases are currently active²
 - Daily rate of new cases (7-day average): **22.8**
per 100,000 residents²

¹ Massachusetts Department of Public Health Daily COVID-19 Data Report: Dec. 13, 2020.

² City of Cambridge COVID-19 Data Center day period reflects 12/5/20 - 12/12/20.

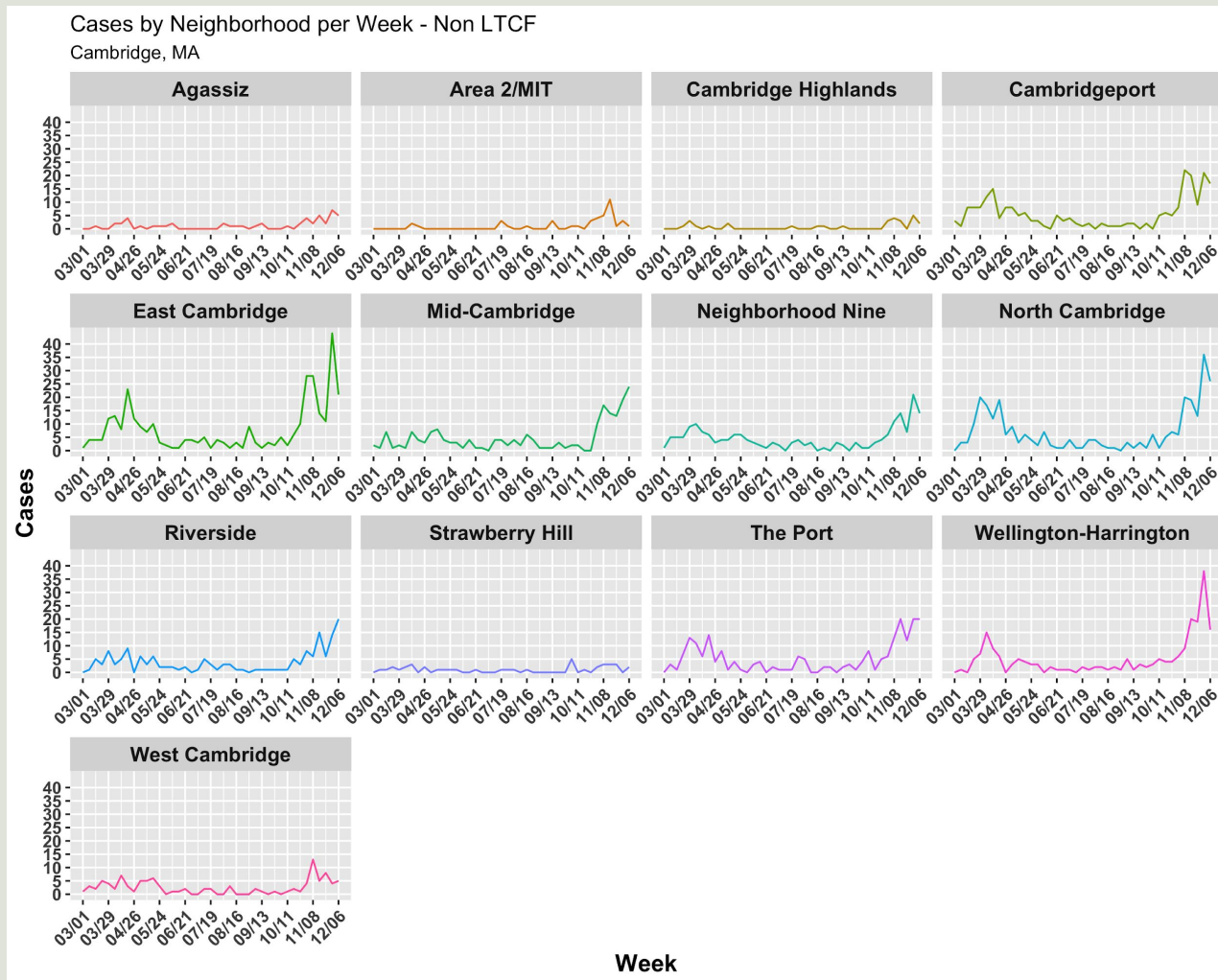
Case Snapshot

- **2,628** confirmed, probable, and suspect cases¹
 - 2,340 in the community
 - 276 in nursing homes and assisted living
 - 100 deaths
- **1,486** recoveries; 617 active cases¹
- **Demographics**
 - **Race/Ethnicity:** Rate of new infections highest in Other, Latinx, and Black residents, followed by White and Asian residents for late Oct. –present.²
 - **Age:** Number of current new infections in week of Dec. 6–12 were highest in 20-29s (29%), followed by 30-39s (20%) and then 0-19s (14%).²

¹ City of Cambridge COVID-19 Data Center, data current as of Dec. 13, 2020.

² Cambridge Public Health Department, special data analysis, December 2020.

Cambridge Cases by Neighborhood (March 1 - December 12)



Mobile Testing and Outreach

FRESH POND APARTMENTS

- **Onsite testing will be available on Friday, Dec. 18** from 3 p.m.–9 p.m.
- Cambridge Community Corps went door-to-door Dec. 12 to let residents know and encourage testing, and will do so again on Dec. 18.
- Flu shots will be made available.
- No appointments necessary; testing for apartment residents only.
- Future sites to be considered based on what the data indicate.

THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

- Residents and staff of the Temporary Emergency Homeless Shelter were tested today in preparation for move to Spaulding Rehabilitation Center later this week.

COVID-19 Community Testing

ALL TESTING SITES

380,497 Tests since March 2¹ | **41,023 Tests** in past 14 days²

Tests administered to Cambridge residents at any health care or city site.

CITY-FUNDED TESTING PROGRAM

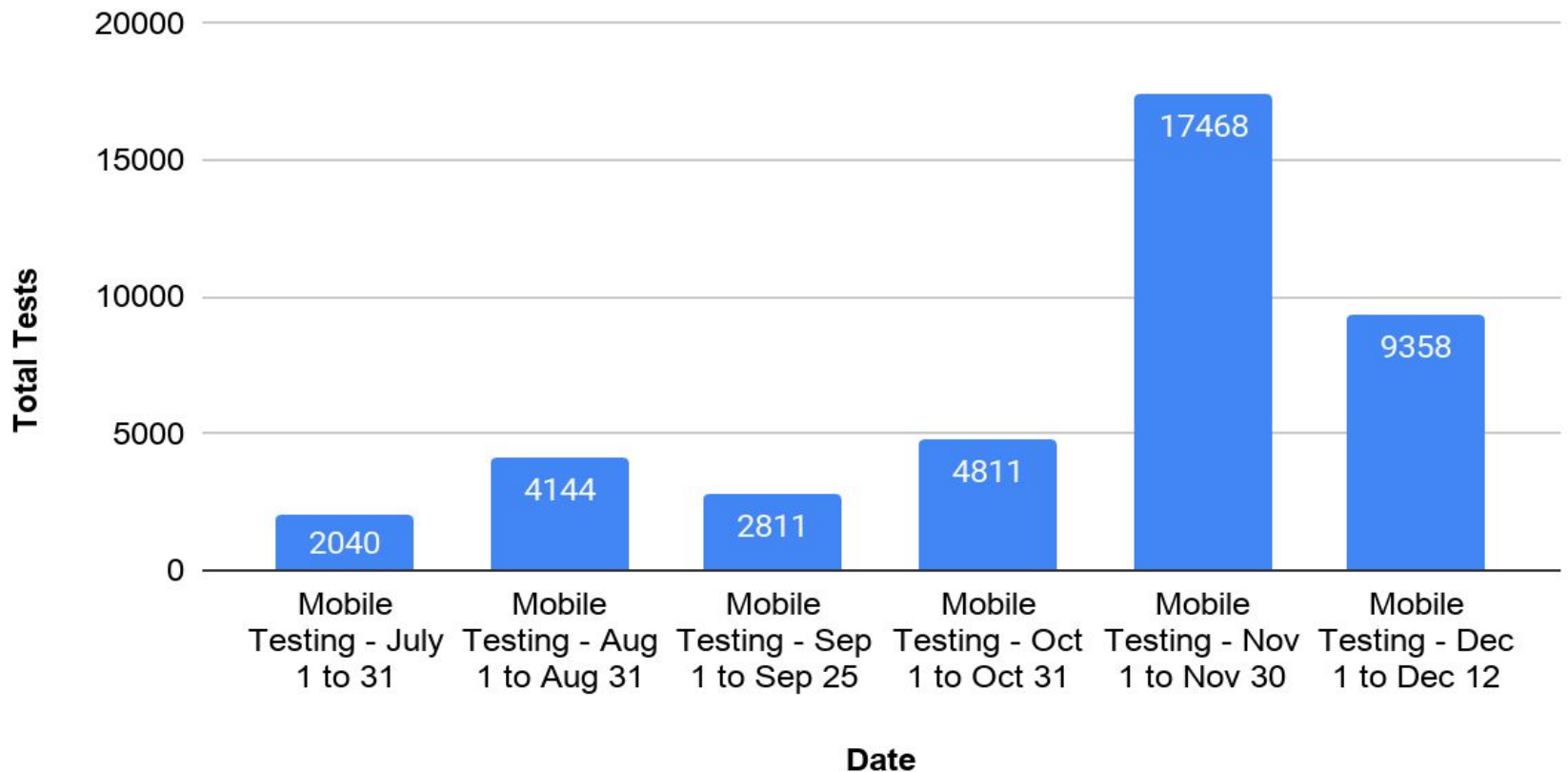
- **Four sites/Testing offered 7 days a week**
- **Walk-ins** accommodated.
- **Additional testing** offered at CambridgeSide from 11a.m. to 7p.m. on Monday, Dec. 21 and Dec. 28.
- **Testing Stats:**
 - 44,986 tests administered since April.
 - 9,358 tests from Dec 1–12.

¹Testing period Mar 2 - Dec 5, 2020

²Testing period Nov 22 - Dec 5, 2020

COVID-19 Community Testing

Community Testing - Total Tests per Month



Cambridge Public Schools Metrics

December 13, 2020

Metric 1

Daily New Cases

21.6

7-day average of new confirmed cases per day, per 100,000 people in Cambridge, ending Dec. 12.

Threshold: < 25 new confirmed cases per day, per 100,000 people (7-day average)

Below Threshold

Metric 2

Test Positivity Rate

1.01%

Percentage of positive COVID-19 tests among Cambridge residents in last 14 days ending Dec. 5.

Threshold: <5% of COVID-19 tests among residents are positive.

Below Threshold

Metric 3

Wastewater Monitoring

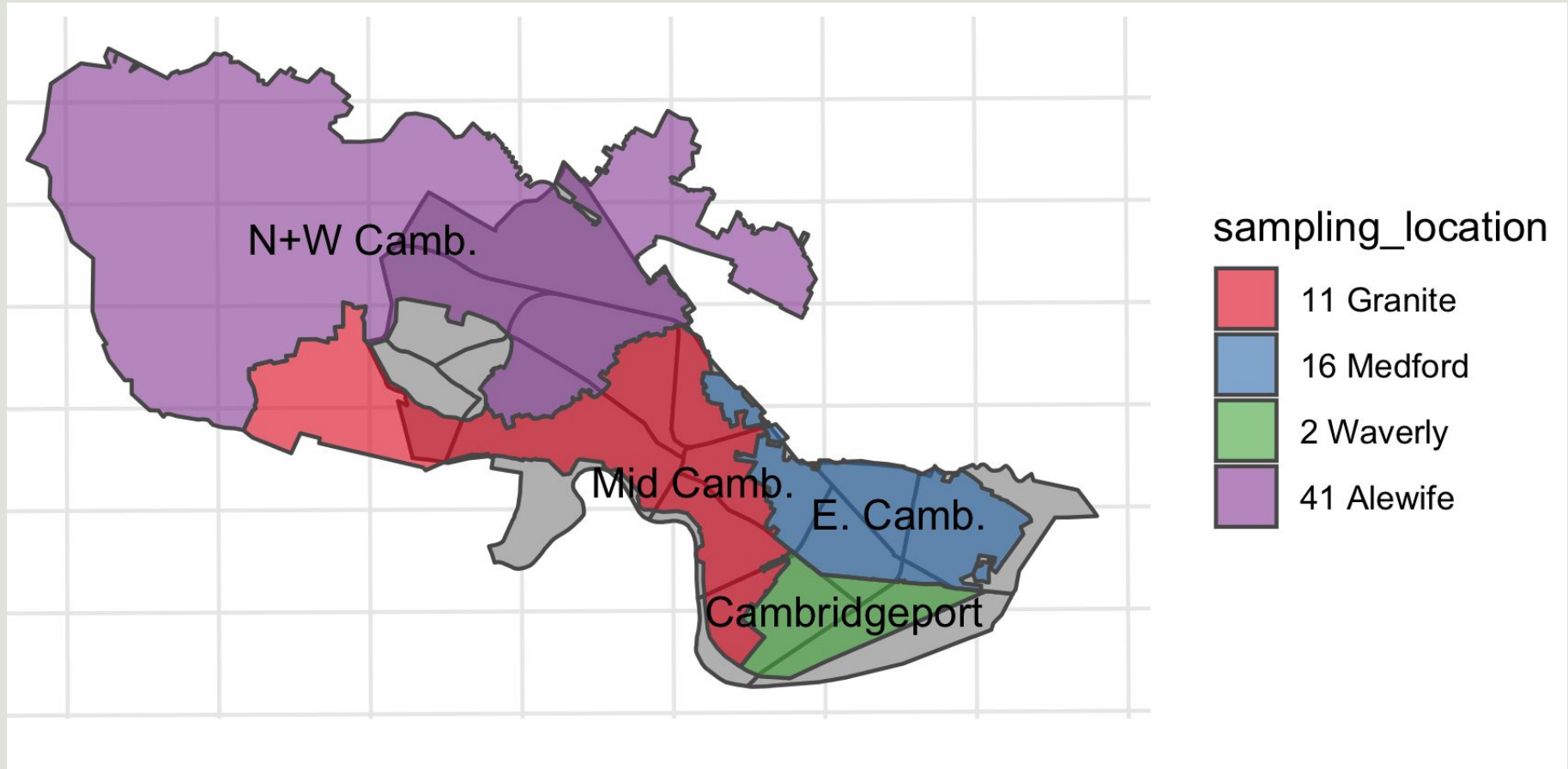
946

Level of COVID-19 found in sewage wastewater in MWRA, as of 12/10/20.

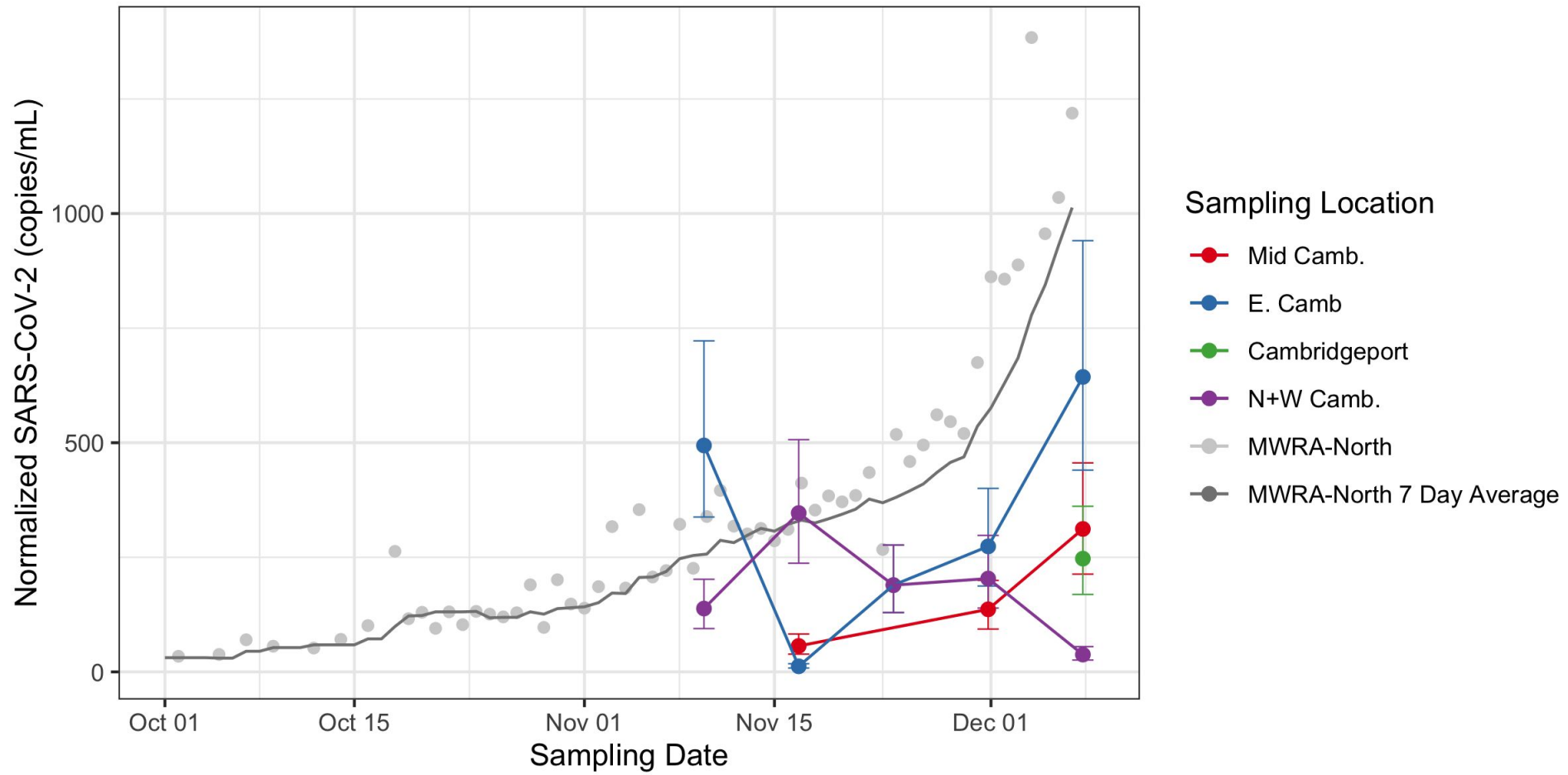
Threshold: COVID-19 in wastewater detected at less than 100 copies viral genomes/mL

Above Threshold

Cambridge Wastewater Sampling Sites



Wastewater Surveillance Data



COVID-19 Vaccine Update

When can I get a **COVID-19** vaccine in MA?



PHASE ONE

In order of priority

- Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters)
- Home-based healthcare workers
- Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care



PHASE TWO

In order of priority

- Individuals with 2+ comorbidities (high risk for COVID-19 complications)
- Early education, K-12, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers
- Adults 65+
- Individuals with one comorbidity



PHASE THREE

Vaccine available to general public

December - February

Estimated timeframes

February - April

April - June

For more information on vaccine distribution visit [Mass.gov/COVIDvaccine](https://www.mass.gov/COVIDvaccine)



Expert Advisory Panel Update

DECEMBER 10 AGENDA

- Clinical and Case/Surveillance Data
 - *Hospital Updates*
 - *MWRA Sewage Data*
- Governor's Order (*Roll back to Phase 3, Step 1*)
- Indoor Dining Guidance
- Mask Use
- Vaccine Rollout